

NEWS

For Immediate Release June 10, 2004 Ray Garibay State Director

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National Hop Acreage Strung for Harvest Down 3 Percent

Hops: Area strung for harvest in 2004 for Washington, Oregon, and Idaho is forecast at 27,946 acres, 3 percent less than the 2003 crop of 28,669 acres, and 5 percent less than the 2002 crop of 29,309 acres. Washington, with 19,334 acres for harvest, accounts for 69 percent of the U.S. total acreage, 158 acres less than a year ago. Oregon hop growers plan to string 5,107 acres or 18 percent of the U.S. total for 2004, with Idaho hop growers accounting for the remaining 13 percent, or 3,505 acres strung for harvest. Idaho growers increased their hop acreage over last year by 2 percent, while Oregon and Washington acreage declined by 11 percent and 1 percent, respectively.

Nationally, water supplies are expected to be adequate this year. In Washington, the winter was relatively mild. However, crop progress is a little slower than normal due to cool spring temperatures and occasional rain. Vines are mostly half way to the wire except for some late-developing varieties which are slightly shorter. Concerns with powdery mildew are less than in recent years. Oregon's crop is also slightly behind normal. In Idaho, hop growers are being very proactive with powdery mildew management.

Hops: 2003 Acres Harvested and 2004 Acres Strung for Harvest by Variety

Variety	Oregon		Washington	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
		Acres		
Cascade	*	91	2,120	1,460
Chelan	-	-	180	201
Chinook	-	-	453	490
Cluster	-	-	430	467
Columbus/Tomahawk	-	-	2,738	2,988
Galena	-	-	2,856	3,412
Glacier	245	243	-	-
Golding	95	105	22	36
Hallertauer	-	-	53	46
Horizon	-	-	135	35
Liberty	*	*	-	-
Millenium	*	264	1,386	1,126
Mt. Hood	217	215	32	39
Northern Brewer	-	-	65	65
Nugget	1,529	1,286	918	719
Perle	450	259	104	47
Sterling	84	222	-	-
Tettnanger	-	-	*	*
Tillicum	-	-	194	*
Willamette	2,224	2,175	3,645	3,543
YCR-5 (WarriorTM)	-	-	1,242	811
Zeus	-	-	2,333	2,899
Other Varieties	904	247	586	950
Total	5,748	5,107	19,492	19,334
U.S TOTAL 1/			28,669	27,946

^{*} Included in "Other Varieties" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Unknown or none.

^{1/} Idaho acreage strung for harvest was 3,429 acres in 2003 and 3,505 acres in 2004. Individual varieties were not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.